THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTNG (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Books worth about Rs. 20,000/- were sold by Publications Division at the Book Exhibition at Tirupati from April 12, 1992 to April 17, 1992.

(b) Rs. 12,000/- approx.

(c) and (d) As a part of its Sales promotion measure, the Publications Division participates in book fairs and exhibitions which attract large number of people. Accordingly, a book stall was set up at Tirupati from April 12-17, 1992.

Advertisements to Publicise Achievements of Government

1991: SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of paid advertisements published by Government in all the newspapers in India or abroad to publicise the achievements of the present Government together with the names of newspapers and journals;

(b) what is the estimated amount spent on the publicity campaign;

(c) whether the advertisements listed several achievements which were not true?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Only one advertisement was published by DAVP on the achievements of the present Government. It was neither published in all the newspapers in India nor in any newspaper published from abroad but was issued to only 1191 newspapers/periodicals which were on the approved list of DAVP.

(b) The total estimated expenditure on the advertisement is Rs. 44,23,559.00.

(c) No, Sir.

Coordinating Committee of the Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool

1992. DR. SHRIKANT RAMACHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the Indian Members on the elected Coordinating Committee of the Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool;

(b) what are the names of the members of the Monitoring group;

(c) what has been the Government's experience about the utility of this pool; and

(d) what suggestions have been made by Government for increasing the utility of this pool?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) PRESS TRUST OF INDIA is the Indian member of the Coordinating Committee of the Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool.

(b) The names of the members of the Monitoring Group are: India, Malaysia, Indonesia, Nigeria, Libya, Zimbabwe, Mexico, Peru, Cuba and Yugoslavia;

(c) and (d) The concept of cooperation in information exchange among the non-aligned countries for which Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool was set up, continues to be relevant even today. Government finds the pool useful and provides financial assistance to PTI for running the INDIA NEWS POOL DESK.

Minister of Information & Broadcasting at the Conference of Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries held in Pyongyang (DPRK) in June, 1993 suggested that the pool should make a concerted effort to set up a reliable cost effective communication network using the latest satellite technology so that maximum number of pool agencies could directly disseminate their news to and receive news from their partner agencies in different Non-Aligned Countries.

Investigation by the Vigilance Department

1993. DR. SHRIKANT RAMACHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) How many cases have been investigated by the Vigilance Department set up in his Ministry during the last three years and the outcome thereof;